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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the application of: David J. Otway et al.

Application number: 09/617,380

Filed: July 17, 2000

For: *STRONG MUTUAL AUTHENTICATION OF
DEVICES*

Attorney Docket No.: CXT-052

Art Unit: 2134

Examiner: Heneghan, Matthew E.

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Technology Center 2100

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as Express Mail, Airbill No. EV378819804US, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date shown below.

Date: May 4, 2004

Signature: *Christopher J. McKenna* (Christopher J. McKenna)

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Dear Sir:

This Response is filed responsive to the restriction requirement set forth in the Office Action dated March 4, 2004 (Paper No. 6).

The Examiner requires restriction between the following inventions in the above-identified application:

1. Claims 1-48, drawn to an authentication protocol between two computers with assistance from a third computer, classified in class 713, subclass 155.
2. Claims 49-71, drawn to an authentication protocol between two computers with no outside assistance, classified in class 713, subclass 169.

Accordingly, Applicants hereby provisionally elect Group 1, containing claims 1-48,

07/19/2004 VJONE for continuation, with traverse.

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Applicants respectfully traverse the restriction. A sufficient search and examination with respect to the subject matter of all claims can be made without serious burden. As stated in §803 of the M.P.E.P:

If the search and examination of an entire application can be made without serious burden, the examiner must examine it on the merits, even though it includes claims to independent or distinct inventions.

Accordingly, Applicants request the Examiner to reconsider and withdraw the restriction requirement so that all claims are searched and examined in the instant application.

Applicants believe no fee is due with this response. However, if a fee is due, please charge our Deposit Account No. 12-0080, under Order No. CXT-052 from which the undersigned is authorized to draw.

Dated: May 4, 2004

Respectfully submitted,

By Christopher J. McKenna
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